



Mental Health Officer Service in Dundee

Promoting your rights and well-being;
Supporting you to achieve your personal goals, build
an independent life and be part of your community.

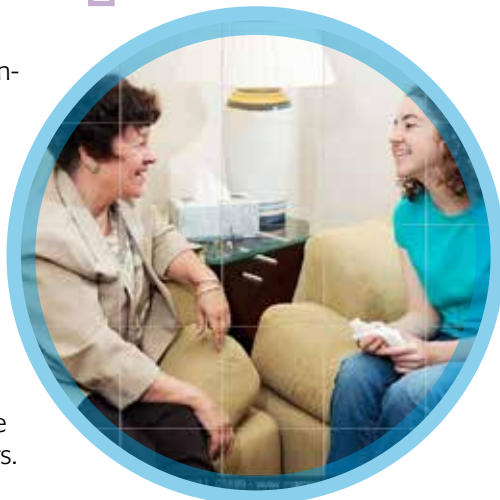


Who is a Mental Health Officer?

A Mental Health Officer is a specially trained social worker who has the training, education, experience and skills to work with people with a mental disorder.

A 'mental disorder' is defined as any mental illness; personality disorder; or learning disability, however caused or manifested.

Mental Health Officers must follow Scottish Social Services Council's code of conduct as registered social workers.



What is a Mental Health Officer Role?

Mental Health Officers are approved to carry out assessments under two main pieces of legislation.

- ✓✓ The Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003
- ✓✓ Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000

Sometimes it is necessary for people with a severe or acute episode of mental disorder to receive treatment they do not agree with. A person cannot be detained within a hospital without the consent of a Mental Health Officer. In such circumstances, the Mental Health Officer will provide a person with information regarding the relevant legislation and facilitate independent representation, e.g. advocacy Services and/or legal representation.

For more information about the Mental Health Care and Treatment (Scotland) Act, please view the following publication: The New Mental Health Act - what's it all about? - A short introduction

Access to a Mental Health Officer

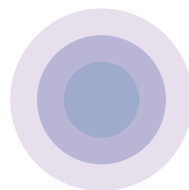
Between Monday and Friday, 09:00 – 17:00, Mental Health Officers operate a “duty system.” It is a statutory responsibility for Dundee City Council to provide 24 hours a day access to a Mental Health Officer. Mental Health Officers are available 365 days per year and out with normal office hours, including all holidays, this service is then provided by the Out of Hours Service. This team responds to emergencies and they pass on information to the daytime staff as soon as possible the following morning.

You can contact the daytime duty service by calling – 01382 438300 or the Out of Hours Service outwith office hours on – 01382 307964.

You can also contact the Mental Health Officer service by post at:

MHO Team Manager
Social Work Department,
Floor 2, Dundee House,
50 North Lindsay Street,
Dundee
DD1 1NF

By e-mail at: mho.ssa@dundeecity.gov.uk



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